# Letters to the Editor ...

## Myths of Vegetarianism

Dear Editor: Thank you for the wonderful and enlightening article by Dr Byrnes [NEXUS 9/03-04]. As an American Indian (I have never liked the term "Native American"; it smacks of jargon, not identity), I have long been suspicious of the claims made by vegetarians concerning health and spirituality, especially when many of the vegetarians making these claims have looked like they've just got out of Dachau.

As for spirituality, I doubt there are many vegetarians anywhere who could match the deep spirituality of my ancestors—a people who lived almost exclusively on meat.

As for vegetarianism being a cure for world violence, let me remind you of Adolf Hitler. Indeed, many of the Nazi higherups as well as much of the Japanese High Command during WWII were vegetarians. I am not saying that vegetarianism causes fascismthough, using vegetarian logic, I probably could—but that dietary habits do not necessarily make the man. A jerk is a jerk, no matter what he or she eats. Eating all the vegetables and grain in the world won't change him or her into a nicer, better person.

Though vegetarians have wrapped themselves in the blanket claim of superior health, I have never noticed this to be the case. Many of the ones I know seem to have significantly weaker immune systems; they catch every "bug" going around and, when sick, they tend to stay sick longer. They often feel cold, even in the summer heat. Many are anaemic or borderline anaemic most of the time. And lately, several of my vegetarian friends have been dropping dead in their mid-forties from cancer and heart attacks—and these among non-smoking vegetarians. Yet the survivors continue preaching their dietary creed at me like a batch of Baptist missionaries, urging me to repent my evil, meat-eating ways and embrace their brand of "truth".

And since we've been living on the starches, grains and sugars that white America likes so much, we've suffered an epidemic of diabetes, heart disease and cancer that we never knew when eating our natural

diet of meat, wild fruits and vegetables. As Dr Byrnes points out in his article, different peoples evolved in different ways. Everyone wasn't meant to be a vegetarian—including many who now are vegetarians.

The vegetarian way of life is <u>not</u> *ipso facto* superior or healthier, despite their shrill claims. And though I often hear vegetarians rant about how "spiritual" they are, they seem to forget that vegetables are living beings, too, with every right to life that every other creature has.

Just because plants don't have big brown eyes to gaze into doesn't make them less alive. Just because you can't hear them scream when you kill them doesn't mean that they don't. It is a simple fact of nature: we all kill to live, or have some part in the killing. To my people, plants are no less alive than animals or humans, and there are rituals of placation that must be observed when killing anything.

The key, here, is not to avoid killing. We can't. Our survival is rooted in killing other beings and taking their lives to feed our own. The key is to take only what you need and leave the rest alone whether it is plant or animal.

You want spirituality? Try respecting and living in harmony with *all life*, plants as well as animals. Our lives depend on them. Perhaps, then, we can stop making a moral/political debate out of the simple question: "What's for dinner?"

James LaMotte, Michigan, USA, Powaksin@aol.com

## ET Intervention is No Solution

Hello, Duncan: Lloyd Pye does a splendid, indeed, magisterial job dismembering the Darwinian Delusion [NEXUS 9/04], but his proposed solution to the mystery of the domestication of animals and plants (aliens dunnit) is no real solution but merely launches the same problem out into space.

If aliens dunnit, how did they get so smart? Either via the Darwinian Delusion, which is of course no solution at all, or still smarter aliens genetically engineered them, and still, still smarter aliens engineered them in turn...*ad infinitum*, which is also no solution and an infinite regress to boot. Pye unfortunately buys into the Darwinian hypothesis of "primitive" Neolithic societies and presumably still more primitive hunter-gatherers before that.

I like to think that our work on the Sphinx, and a considerable body of work by like-minded co-workers (to say nothing of the legends and mythologies around the world), solidly establishes a non-linear scenario for human civilisation.

Without reiterating the considerable body of evidence, there was a highly advanced human civilisation in place before the last Ice Age (and, quite possibly, even long before that), capable of feats of pure physical engineering that we still cannot reproduce with our clever machines (e.g., the Sphinx and Valley temples, etc.)

Like Pye, I long ago realised that the domestication of plants and animals represented a gigantic step forward in civilisation, and have (since the spectre of genetic engineering loomed on the horizon back in the early '70s) considered that this, and only this, could account for this amazing phenomenon. Except that it may not have utilised the kind of purely mechanical technology we employ today; it may have been accomplished by "mental" means. In other words, if we knew how they did it, it would look like magic to us, but would have been technology to them...

Pye dismisses rather summarily the Intelligent Design argument, but that seems to me to be far the better solution. To appreciate its power, however, calls for an analogical understanding of the nature of hierarchical organisation.

Even right here on Earth, in purely terrestrial organisations, the "lower" does not understand the "higher". The lavatory attendants at a nuclear facility do not understand what the boffins are doing with their particle accelerator; the dishwashers at a five-star restaurant do not understand either the actions or the decisions of the chef; and the hot dog vendors at Yankee Stadium have little inkling of what is going through the minds of the players on the field. Lavatory attendants, dishwashers and hot dog vendors perceive only the results of those actions.

Extending that analogy, that is, our position vis à vis Intelligent Design, we see and can study only the results. Can the living, sensitive cells in my body fathom the (I like to think!) Intelligent Design responsible for this letter? Can the molecules comprising the individual cells fathom whatever the cellular reaction to this act may be? I suspect they cannot, and, by the same token, we cannot fathom with any precision the "intent" of the Întelligent Designer (or Designers) responsible for the vast and complex "Unity" that is organic life on Earth. We see and can study only the results, one of which is us...

This still does not provide a nutsand-bolts solution to the mystery of the domestication of animals or the much greater mystery of organic life on Earth, with us in the middle of it. Perhaps this mystery cannot be solved? (Actually, I like to think it can be; it just hasn't happened yet.) But calling in alien intervention most assuredly does not solve it either.

John Anthony West, JAWSPHINX@aol.com, website http://www.jawest.com

## **HIV Does Not Cause AIDS**

Dear Duncan: I am writing to let you know about my research find-ings on AIDS.

My extensive research on AIDS worldwide has not led me to a single individual with AIDS that was caused by HIV, nor a single person with AIDS who was cured by treatment with antiviral agents (AZT and protease inhibitors).

On the contrary, the epidemiology and pathology of AIDS showed that agents and factors other than HIV are responsible for causing the worldwide AIDS epidemic.

My findings have been reviewed and supported by scientists and physicians. I have had five articles on AIDS published this year as letters to the editor of the *British Medical Journal* (nos. 1-5). In these articles, I described the main causes of AIDS worldwide and provided recommendations to end this horrible epidemic. Also, my website (http://www.toxi-health.com) contains more articles describing my findings on AIDS.

It appears that the United States

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC) and Anthony Fauci, the Director of the AIDS program, have not used standard medical procedures to solve the AIDS epidemic.

The correct approach for investigating the cause(s) of any disease is by evaluating all possible factors and agents and excluding those that appear unrelated to the event investigated. It seems that the US CDC and Fauci have taken the exact opposite approach. They call wellestablished symptoms and lesions resulting from the use of drugs and medications severe starvation, and infections, HIV diseases.

Best regards,

Mohammed Ali Al-Bayati, PhD, DABT, DABVT, Toxicologist and Pathologist, Toxi-Health International, California, USA, maalbayati@toxi-health.com

## **Evidence for Sentient Plants**

Dear Duncan: Since you evidently are interested in the subject of plant feelings and intelligence [Editorial, 9/03], I'll share some of my experiences with you.

In my self-development groups, we took two wooden boxes filled with soil. We planted seeds in equal amounts in each box. Both boxes were watered the same amount daily, but one box was put on the kitchen counter and the other on top of a tall refrigerator. Both boxes were receiving identical amounts of sunlight.

The one on the counter we talked to and projected love to daily. The one on top of the refrigerator we paid no attention to, other than to water it. Both boxes of seeds eventually sprouted.

After a while, when the sprouts were growing, the ones we talked to and loved were approximately two inches taller than the "lonely" ones on top of the refrigerator.

Another time, I was teaching meditation to my groups. Where I sat was a big-leafed plant behind me. We often did open-eye meditation. My students brought my attention to the big leaves of the plant...slowly moving during the meditation. I, of course, wanted to see it and turned around to watch. Indeed, the big leaves were sort of bowing slowly down and rising up

## a little faster.

I have had many more experiences with intelligence and feelings of plants. Thank you for your attention.

Magda B., Topanga, CA, USA

## Proceeding by Inquiry

Howdy, Duncan: In your most recent editorial you list plenty of things we are all, or should all be, sceptical about. However, I find that the very term "scepticism" has been overly wrought with negative and limiting beliefs due to those who co-opted the term, such as The Never-Very-Amazing Randi, Martin Gardner, etc., *ad nauseam*.

Perhaps we should all switch to the far more operable as well as underutilised "zeteticism", which means "proceeding by inquiry". Having myself switched to this term, I find that others are using it around me now and we are finding it far more valuable as a tool for dissecting the morass of information than the "S" word ever could.

Thanks for your time and for your awesome magazine (I ended up buying it out of town rather than waiting three days to get home to my subscription!).

In Lake'ch,

L. Wildwood, Phytomphalos Permaculture Farm, BC, Canada, thecottage@uniserve.com

#### A Creative Universal Structure

Dear Editor: Lloyd Pye says that the proponents of "Intelligent Design" cannot explain the anomalies between species which he describes [9/04]. He certainly provides some interesting information, much of which is new to us, but he is quite wrong in his dismissal of our alternative explanation.

This arose from a highly successful but suppressed attempt to solve a group of problems in cosmology. Theorists cannot switch off their "Big Bang", so it remains as an embarrassing problem called the "cosmological constant" which totally invalidates all the scenarios they present.

Then some stars seem older than the universe and gravity cannot be properly incorporated. We not only solved all these problems before 1990, but predicted that the expansion of the universe must be ever accelerating—something not discovered until 1998.

The solution involved the introduction of "opposed energy dynamics", which shows that when an invisible background medium made of a mixture of minute particles exists, some made of positive and the remainder of negative energies, then creative properties appear from the mathematics. A structure very similar to the neural network of our brains appears.

Though unimaginably finegrained, this extends to the very edges of the universe. It has the potential to evolve a conscious intelligence and appears able to have created matter by the deliberate organisation of the waves it spontaneously generates.

Evolution has certainly occurred, but now seems more likely to have been like that of our cars: by the repeated design of new models based on experience of older ones. On this basis, the anomalies described by Pye become explicable without invoking aliens from outer space. The references on our website are backed by peerreviewed scientific publications; see our website at http://www.survivalafterdeath.org.

Ronald D. Pearson, BSc, Bath, England, UK

## Early Crop Circles and UFOs

Dear Duncan: The crop circle has been an issue in NEXUS in recent years. But it was an item in the 1930s in England with the publication of a book by a laboratory. The hardback book had the publication date of 1932 or 1933.

The book had several photographs of crop circles that were noted as existing in England. Also, the book had photographs of several UFOs (flying saucers) that were noted as taken in England and other European nations.

I read the book in 1952 in a library when browsing through the engineering/technology section. I'd picked it for skim-reading as a random selection. Fifty years ago at age 22, the photos were impressive and I thought they showed some advanced inventions I had not seen before. At that time, I was employed in the Engineering NB: Please keep letters to approx. 150 to 250 words in length. Ed.

Standards branch of Wright Air Development Center (WPAFB), Dayton, Ohio, where I had become acquainted with old and new aircraft/missile designs—not UFOs like in the 1933 book from England. To this day, in 2002, I vividly recall the crop circle/UFO book.

Since 1952, I have continued in aerospace engineering in the design and development of missiles, space vehicles and spacecraft. On occasion, I interviewed persons who have seen UFOs within 300 feet; I lived in a neighbourhood that was active with UFOs during 1970–1974; and I saw a UFO zoom past me (at 2,500 feet) in a California desert area.

From a perspective of a senior aeronautical engineer, I have reviewed UFO literature for the past 50 years. The literature admits to crop circles and UFO events being realities, but it does not confirm who, what and why. A bureaucracy cover-up would be natural when an out-of-this-world event occurs.

An observation is that a bureaucracy ignores a scientific situation unless it can be controlled and manipulated within an organisational framework. If not, it does not exist publicly. The crop circle and UFO solutions and their exposure are better to remain with private persons and NEXUS.

Sincerely,

Ervin Sommer, BA, LLB, MBA, Escondido, CA, USA

## **Treatment for Bruxism**

Dear Duncan: I've read the letter by Philip Schlegel of Germany about teethgrinding [9/04].

When I was very little, approx. four to five years old, I had the same problem, so my mother took me to the family doctor, who told mum that the problem was created by certain parasites: *Oxyuris* worms.

After the proper treatment and elimination of the parasites, the problem disappeared completely.

I hope it will work for others as well. Good luck!

Lucia M., Casula, NSW, Australia